# M. TAINE AN ACADEMICIAN.

HIS RECEPTION BY THE "IMMORTALS." A DISTINGUISHED GATHERING AT THE FRENCH ACADEMY-THE NEW COMER'S TRIBUTE TO MADAME RECAMIER - M. TAINE'S SYSTEM-HIS FILIAL DEVOTION AND DOMESTIC HAPPINESS -A PEN PORTRAIT OF HIS PERSON AND CHARAC TER-THE SOCIAL SEASON.

JERON THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. Pants, Jan. 16 .-- I wrote some days ago to M. Taine, with whom I am slightly acquainted, asking him to favor me with a ticket of admission to the Academy on the day of his reception. He sent me one by return of post, inclosed in a most courteous letter, in which he mentioned that owing to an old and inveterate abuse, I would be obliged to stand in a queue for bours if I did not send a domestie or a ticket porter to do so for me.

The handwriting is neat and legible, without being "clerky." It has a very distinct character of its own, and in England it would not be taken for a Freuchman's autograph, but rather for an Englishman's. Faine, as a matter of fact, is not a Gaul. He is a native of Ardennes, and evidently of Germano-Flemish brigin. His physiognomy, which is fair, phlegmatic and contemplative, denotes such an ancestry, and there is in everything he does the neatness and the painstaking manner of the Fleming. So far as I can judge, he has but one essentially French characteristic. It is a robust faith in his own system of literare and historical criticism; in the infallibility of his method, which does not happen to be his own, but one borrowed from the materialist Condillac, and in (however he may change opinions on men and events) a clearly manifested determination never to admit that he could by any possibility

ever be in the wrong. Taine carries faralism to an extreme which would have shocked Calvin the Reformer, who made predestination one of the essential articles of his theological confession. To free-will and an overruling Providence, which often comes to the aid of those who seek to work out their own salvation, and to save others who seem doomed to perdition, he gives no place. As the soil and climate are, so must We in vain struggle against the "determinism" of both. I dare say that Taine would think the man a fool who, for having been born in a stable, regarded hunself as a horse, albeit his own theory would warrant such a conclusion.

MR. TAINE'S LIMITATIONS. academician has a near-sighted intellect. What it sees it sees very well, but its ken is circumscribed to objects held up close to the eyes and examined through a diminishing glass. He has a bankering after philosophy, but be has never been able to attain a philosophical altitude, and if he did, the weakness and the obliquity of his vision would not enable him to see the vast panerama at his feet. The sense of perspective is not given to him. He is not a painter of pictures, but a worker in ornamental Mosaics. What he does is well and carefully executed, and very ingeniously designed. Taine is an artisau of superior excellence; but he has not the qualities which constitute the true artist. A historian be was not born, and no amount of patient industry will ever make him one. His work on "Les Origines de la France Contemporame" is a collection of Freuch bric-à-brac in which the pieces are neatly mended, dusted and docketed. This old curiosity museum would suggest much to a visitor of philosophical grasp and insight, but teach no lesson to the ordinary dilettante. A MODEL SON AND HUSBAND.

In his private life M. Taine is a man to be revered and loved. He is a devoted son to his mother, with whom he invariably spends a few hours every evening when she is in he is not obliged to go to the theatre, or to a dinner party which will not be over before she retires to rest. In either of these cases he goes on his way to embrace the old lady, who is in her eighty-second year, and to receive her benediction, without which he would not sleep comfortably. There is no more affectionate hasband and father in the world. Madame Taine married him for love. He had, when she made his acquaintance, some bright literary feathers in his cap, but he was poor and struggling for independence, and in the hours that he did not devote to literature he "coached" young men for their university examinations. The passion he inspired was approved by the father of the young lady, M. Denuclie, a painter of talent, who had made a tolerably good fortune as a house decorator. He gave his daughter for her marriage portion 200,000 francs, which seemed a great fortune to the hardorking essayist, and a country house at Chatillon,

M. and Mme. Taine, in the lifetime of M. Denuelle, lived here in the fine weather, and their Winter quarters were, and still are, in the quiet Rue Barbet-de-Joney, at the end of the Faubourg St. Ger main, nearest to the Hôtel des Invatides. Their income has been further augmented by the great hterary successes of M. Taine and the death of Mme. Taine's father, from whom, among other things, they have inherited a chalet, in which now reside in Summer, on the green shores of the lake of Annecy. There is much more philosophy and poetry in the every-day life of M. Taine than in his writings. He has attained the golden mean of Horace. His temper is sweet, his disposition obtiging, his habits studious and his mind highly cultivated. The man has a very warm heart; and its affections he holds to be th ources of all that is best und most consoling in existence. That Divinity which is excluded from his works reigns in his home. Mme. Tame is deeply imbaed with the simple Christianity of her Savoy ard ancestors, and M. Taine feels that her unaffected piety exerts a blessed influence on himself and on his son and daughter.

THE ACADEMY UNDER LOUIS NAPOLEON. The Academy's sittings have lost, since the revival of liberty, much of the piquant interest which was attached to them when Louis Napoleon reigned. He was lord of all the material forces of the country. He was scoffed at by the literary company which met under the dome of the Institute. Its delicate and stinging jibes told, for the Forty then included Thiers, that man of granitic solidity of will, the late Duc de Broglie, Guizot, Mignet, Berryer, Lacordaire, the Pére Gratry, and Dupanloup, a man of great motive power and social prestige. The press was gagged, the tribune was silent, but the tongue of the Academy was still, so far as the Imperial authority went, an unruly member. It was the only place in France in which the moral atmosphere was not stifling. Hence the intensely keen interest with which its sittings were witnessed by the privileged public which were so fortunate as to obtain tickets of admission, and the loud echo which the epigrams and allusions of academicians found in the country. This interest has departed. The Academy has ceased to be epigrammatic at the expense of the Government. It is conservative, with a gloss of liberalism; but its line is not so much to attack the Republic and democracy as to ignore them. An Orleans Prince is king of the Academy, or, at least, of the majority there, and he is too prudent to draw down thunder of popular anger and hatred upon it. He is too well-bred to ruffle MM. Charles Blanc, Littré, Henri Martin, Barbier, Victor lingo and his own old tutor, Cavillier Fleury, who now writes Republican articles for the But as the prestige of the Academy as a body of gens distingués is still undiminished, its meeticgs are always well attended. It is a feather in a lady's cap to be often seen there, and men of culture find an intellectual pleasure in listening to the speeches. Yesterday the benches reserved for members of the five Academies, into which the Institute of France is divided, were well filled, and the literary and scholastic world of Paris was numerously represented.

TAINS IN FAVOR WITH THE REACTIONISTS. There were Orieanist. Bonapartist and prominent Republican ladies also on the benches under the dome, for Taine accepted favors of the Empire, wrote for the Débats, is an habitue of the Duc de Broglie's salon, attends the Due d'Aumale's receptions, and as a disciple of Condillac, is in sympathy with Gambetta and the group belonging to the Republique Française. Taine has won the good-will

of the Reactionists of the Academy by writing down the Revolution in his book on the origin of Modern France, in which he speaks of the Declaration of the Rights of Man as "a pomard directed against every human society"; of the Fourth of August as 'the work of a drunken mob"; of the volunteers of

'92 as "the rascals of the towns and the ruffians of the hamlets," and of the liberties brought into being by the Revolution, as "howing monstrosities." Taine was conducted into the Academy by his parasors, one of whom was Dumas fils. Another Dumas, who is a chemical manufacturer and phy-

blumas, who is a chemical manufacturer and physicist, was to receive him. The latter defended in his speech the cause of spiritualism, and in noble terms and with the unction which conviction gives. Tame is not a handsome man, though his profile is regular. His sandy beard is so thin as not to is regular. His sandy beard is so thin as not to cover the part of the face on which it grows. The complexion has a saponecrous gloss. The month is large, heavy and in its outline wants sharp distinctness. The forehead is broad and low and wrinkled in a horizontal direction. The chesinal har is lank, coarse and not much thicker than the beard, and the eyes are a very poor kind of windows for the soul, which M. Tame holds to be a chemical servition. They are small, dead and set obliquely. Not to see double and indistinctly. M. Tame is obliged to hold close to his face anything he wants to examine or to look at well. The ansemble of the physicaromy is heavy, limp, and yet prepossessing. The man's exemplary life and home virtues are beginning to transitizare an originally very plana and ginning to transfigure an originally very plata and inexpressive countenance.

A PORTRAIT OF MADAME RECAMIER M. Taine's speech abounds in charming bits of for the edification of pupils and governesses. He says: "The mistress of this poorly furnished salon to the age of fifty she had been the most beautiful woman of her time. Her grace still remained to her, and her parity was never tarnished by the shadow of a suspicion. There was a penetrating snavity in her kindness, which never flagged, and the delicacy of her tact was only equalied by the durability of her fine sentiments. Under every regime she had tried to serve the vanquished, and she had never flattered the victors. he was faithful to her friends to the point of onduring exile for their sake. The First Napoleon banished her. When his nephew, afterward the Third ished her. When his nephew, afterward the Third Napoleon, was a prisoner she visited blue at the Con-cierzerie. When M. de Lomenie made her acquain-tance she was spending what remained to her of life in trying to console and amuse M. de Chateaubriand, who was sad, old and cickly. From the greatest opulence she had faller, into ma-re v means without censing to smile; and this smile sufficed to retain and attract the cline of pol shed sufficed to retain and attract the cline of pol shed society. To see her once begot the desire to see her constantly. Humanny is not so gross, or ignorant as we are prone to think. A secret instinct graws it toward ideal beings, and when they are discovered, toe world falls on its knees before them. Politicians were surprised to find that they forgot their ambition in the presence of Madame de Récamier, and literary men to feel that in coming into her presence their vanity subsided. Abnegation was no longer hard to practice. The business man ceased to be hard, and he felt surriag in his breast the germs of poetic tenderness and chivairous devotion."

A GROUP OF NOTABLES. Princess Gortschakoff, daughter-in-law of the Russian Chancellor, was one of the ladies of renown who was at M. Taine's reception. She made his acquaintance at Aix, and is an intelligent admirer of his works, and more especially of those which are devoted to art criticism. I also saw the winsome little Madame Edmond About, and her daughters, Valentine and Germaine, who are her inseparable companions. Princesse Mathilde is an old friend, and was a patroness of the new academician, in whose behalf she successfully exerted her influence with the Emperor when the chair of Æsthetics was vacant at the Ecole des Beaux Arts. The Princesse bears her years well. She had at each hand one of her nephews, who have developed in her the maternal sentiment. The reception happened to take place on a Thursday, which is a half holiday in the French colleges. Prince Victor, a staid, serious looking adolescent, listened to the speeches with attention. The other lad showed intelligent curiosity in looking about him. He bears an Italianized resemblance to the First Napoleon, and has a pleasant and mirthful expression in the eyes pleasant and mirthful expression in the eyes and mouth. He seemed more up for a school boy's lark than for improving his mind, which I am sure is acute and quick. The boy looks a humorist, and a friend of his tells me that he is a warm-hearted little fellow, and of a loyal, open disposition. The Princesse Mathilde and her nephews were placed near the seat occupied by the Duc d'Aumale, who was, as the discourses were being read, in close and earnest conversation with M. Jules Simon.

Seciety is beginning to light up a little. There

Society is beginning to light up a little. There was last night a brilliant soirée given at the Ob- event. "But how are you going to paint the men servatory in honor of 'be savant Crookes, who is passing through France to Italy. The honors were done by Admiral and Amirale Muchez. Mrs. Bowes, of Barnard and Streatham Castles, in England, has resumed her weekly receptions, which are preceded by sociable though sumptuously appointed dinners, to which only literati and renowned artists are invited. I renewed in her dining-room my acquaintance with Ernest Renan, and met the beautiful Madame Judith Gauthier. Mrs. Bowes, née Madame Judith Gauthier. Mrs. Bowes, née
St. Amand is a step-danghter of the late M. Hippolyte Lucas, and was brought up on the knees of
Victor Inigo. She is very hospitable, very unaffected, and has a constant flow of good spirits at
her table and in her drawing-room. The soirées
are select and never crowded, and free from the
taint of Bohemanism. John Knox, the reformer,
was married to a daughter of Mr. Bowes's
ancestor, Sir George Bowes, who took a leading part in suppressing the rebellion of the two
Earls in the North against the authority of Queen
Elizabeth. The present owner of Barnard and of
Streatham Castles has in his possession a letter of
Mary Queen of Scots, to Sir George, thanking him
for his chivalrous kindness to her when his duty
to his sovereign obliged him to act as her jailer.

# NEWPORT NOTES.

NEWPORT, R. I., Jan. 29.-The remarkable Spring-like weather is being improved by the builders of the easine. The foundation walls for the main building, heatre, bowling alley and racket court have been laid, and the wal's of the first story of the main building. which are of brick, are now over fifteen feet high. The easino buildings have on one side the blocks owned by William R. Travers, of New-York, and on the other the Summer residence of Daniel LeRoy, of the same city. They from the fine grande villa on Believuc-ave., owned by James Gordon Bennett. The casino will add considerable to the attractions of the place, there being nothing of the kind in the country. It will be fluished before the middle of July.

A number of cottages have been rented for the acproaching season. In common with everything else, cents have been advanced from last year's prices, which in many cases were unusually low for Newport. The outlook for the season is very encouraging and it is evi-dent that there will be no end of gatety and fashionable dissipation. There will be polo, steeple-chases, yachting, fox-hunting, and pigeon-shooting in addition to the

log, for shuming, and pecoasions of the state of the customary entertainments.

Work is bring rapidly advanced upon the new cottages and upon those which are being altered and otherwise improved. The plans have been executed for a handsome Swiss villa for Mrs. Harriet N. Pond, of Hartford, which will cost about \$25,000.

The Casino entertainment Tuesday, was attended by the edite of the plans.

The Casine entertainment Tacasay, the clite of the place.
Governor Van Zandt, at the close of the January Session of the Lexislature, will return here and take possession of his convecting.

The United Congregational Church, which a large number of Summer re-idents altend, as being renovated. The interior decorations are by La Farge, the well-known artist of New-York. The pastor of this flourishing charch is the Rev. Henry J. Van Dyke, jr., formerly large charch is the Rev. Henry J. Van Dyke, jr., formerly

of Brooklyn, who recently withdrew his name as a nember of the Brooklyn Presbycery.

James R. Keene's rading academy is finished. A carload of saw-ansi recently arrived for the track from Boston. A similar freight was never received in this cinky.
Rhode Island's next Governor will probably be A. H.
stitlefield, of Pawtucket. There are, however, several
ligible candidates within the fold of the Republican

# THE FIRE RECORD.

CHICAGO, Jan. 31 .- The bakery of Frank Field & Co., at the corner of Despiaines and Washington-sts., was burned last night. The stock was valued at \$30,000; machinery, \$14,000. The insurance on the stock is \$20,000, and on the machinery \$8,000. The building was worth \$30,000. DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 31 .- A fire at Port-

and, Mich., destroyed Griffin & Campbell's planing mill, Smith's school-seat factory, and the machinery and stock of the Hunter Tool Company. The total loss is \$15,000; insurance, \$600. CINCINNATI, Jan. 31.—The residence of ex-

Schator T. C. McCreery, at Owensboro', Ky., was burned yesterday, together with a valuable library and household goods. Loss about \$10,000; insurance, portrait; one by an artist where name escapes me

#### ART IN LONDON.

GOSSIP FROM STUDIO AND GALLERY. MRS. THOMPSON-MUTLER'S NEW PROTURE OF brainie de l'Art. The latter is not quite so lurge as ROUKE'S DRIFT-THE ACTIONS WHICH ESTAD the former, and is without the antographs, but to

FOR ARTISTS -MILLAIS AND MRS. LANGIERY.

whether true or not, it has long passed for true. sefore she became Mrs. Butler-exhibited her now famous picture of the Roll Call at the Royal Academy. It was a striking picture; fall of a certain kind of merit, unbackneyed in treatment, vigorous, and perhaps a little sensational. It attracted some. but not much, attention at the private view. At the dinner in the evening the Prince of Wales referred to it in terms of very warm praise, and it instantly became one of the pictures of the year- erected. all things constilered, the picture of the year. A work of art which appealed to the patriotic and soldierly pride of Englishmen, and which royalt) description and delicious bric-à-brac. His moral bad thought worthy of notice and of public portrait of Madame de Récamier is a gem. Mis- enlogy, could not fail to score a great tresses of boarding-schools, I success independently of its merits, which, neverreprinted in leaded type and posted in class-rooms | theless, were considerable. As the Prince was leavmg the gallery he said to Sir Heary Thompson, "I gave your daughter a good lift, I kope," I don't up a dark narrow flight of stairs, and in the out-building of a convent was past sixty. For more than fifteen years her hair had been whitening. She was become him to the "Roll Call," and the Miss Thompson who was whitening. She was becoming blind. But up Sir Henry's daughter and known to be a student of art were, in fact, two different persons. His Royal Highness, who is a most good-natured person, had meant to do a kindness to a friend. His good inten-

Mrs. Butler is now engaged on a picture representing the gallant defence of Rorke's Drift. It was undertaken some months since by command of the Queen, and is to be shown to the public at the ensuing exhibition of the Royal Academy in May. It is already so far advanced that the meaning and main features of the picture may be perceived, and those who have seen it describe it as the most promising of all this lady's efforts. London, Jan. 31.—The Marquis of Anglescy, and enthusiasm. It is not her fashion to generalize, or to trust to her imagination for the facts of her work. The defences of Rorke's Drift are reproduced from sketches made on the spot. Not centent with sketches, she has had some of the mealie bags of which the improvised breastwork consisted brought to England, and has painted from them.

Samon Hose No. 7, under the old Volunteer Department of England No. 8, Lat the latter postion No. 8, Lat the latter postion he was the first for mas shem flew was number of great personal dancer. England No. 8, Lat the time was one of the postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was the first for mas a slean fire postion he was first postion. It should not be formed and the two commit the efficient him has a stea first postion. It shades a such that said for the first mas was She has been down to Ports wouth to see and study the very men of the 24th was defended the post. She has seen Bromhead and Chard, the two heroes vas, and an officer who knows them and has seen the picture tells me that Mrs. Butler has brought out the character as well as features of these officers Brombead, one of the most gallant of men, had never had a reputation for great ability. He was, beside, a little deaf. The organization of the defence and construction of the works fell upon Chard, an engineer officer. In the picture Bromhead is seen consulting Chard, leaning forward in the natural attitude of a deaf man. In one corner-a portrait, like all the other whose right shoulder was shot away early in the fight. He has crammed his arm into his belt for support, and is hurrying forward into the fight with his other arm full of cartridges to replenish the conches of his comrades. Elsewhere may be seen the fighting parson-I am sorry I have forgotten his name-of whom it is related that he rebuked a profane private with these words: "Shoot as many of them as you like, my man, but don't swear at them. With these and many other opisodes Mrs. Butler has so enlivened her picture that her soldier-critic de clares it dramatic in its vivacity and the force of its story-telling; while in every point of detail the army regulations are observed with minute exactitude.

The French painter of battle-pieces, M. de Neuville, is at work on the same incident. He has been over to England, and carries back with him models of English uniforms and accoutrements, together with what he considers a sufficient narrative of the themselves ?" queried a friend. plenty of French soldiers to sit." answered M. de Neuville. The contrast between the jaunty selfconfidence of the Gallic artist and the Englishwoman's patient study of facts will strike every one And there will be some curiosity to see what sort of warrior will figure on M. de Neuville's canvas from the combination of French bodies and British uniforms. "I shall have to make them bigger; that's all," said M. de Neuville, with characteristic contentment in his powers of idealization. His picture, I am told, is undertaken on a commission from a fine art publishing house in London. The painter of Le Bourget is sure to produce a learned and brilliant picture; but whether it will look much like Rorke's Drift is another question. Even M. Philippoteaux's Englishmen in his Waterloo pictures have a flavor of the Faubourgs about them, and M. Philippe teaux is nevertheless reckoned rather unusually

onscientious in adhering to nature and history. It is too early as yet to say much about studios Not a few of the artists put off beginning their Academy pictures till late in the Winter. Many are occupied with private commissions, given under a stipulation that the work shall not be exhibited to the public. One and all complain of the weather. It has been all but impossible to paint in such light, or rather in such darkness, as has spread over Landon these three months past, The artists studios are mostly to be found in neighborhoods remote from the regions of densest fog, yet the same complaint comes up from Kensington, from Holland Park, from St. John's Wood, and from wherever else the artist pitches his tent. Said Mr. Boughton the other day; "The American friends who are press, ing me for promised pictures would think less hardly of me if they knew that there have been but two good days for painting during the last six weeks," Said another artist: "I get but an hour two a day at best for work; sometimes not ter minutes; and when a moment comes in can venture to put in a little color, I dash away in a kind of Never, I suppose, were men so backward with their work, for never was such a season known. The portrait-painters must keep the brush going for their sitters will not wait, but how they manage is known to themseives only. Mr. Kudolf Lehmann has lately completed portraits of two pretty and charming women, each finished in that style of which he is the master, with almost as much delicacy as might suit a miniature, but with an honest and energetic fendering of feature and character Mr. Millais is never without half a dozen portraits on as many easels. It is imagined that the next exhibition will see him with a fresh portrait of Mrs Langtry, who, with heir husband, was a guest at Mr. Millais's house in the Highlands last Sum. mer. The famous painter is known to have made many sketches of the not less famous beauty during that visit, and the interence is that they will be reproduced in some more permanent form; the more so that neither Mr. Millais nor Mrs. Langtry nor anybody else was quite satisfied with the "Jersey Lily" which adorned the Academy walls two seasons ago. It may be worth mentioping that a new photograph of Mrs. Langtry has lately appeared in the shop windows, and is, on the whole, a fairly good likeness. It is the first which can be said to be anything better than a car. icature. I don't observe that the trade in photo-

graphs of fashionable beauties falls off. You may

buy just as many portraits of Mrs. Cornwallis West

or any of her rivals as before the Rosenberg trial-

indeed, you may buy more, for while the old remain

Admirers of Victor Hugo may now choose be

tween two good etchings of Bonnat's celebrated

on sale every month or so sees a new one added.

LINES HER REPUTATION -DREADELL WEATHER | my mind is the more truthful and intellectual of the two. I doub, whether Rajon has his qual among etchers in rendering portraits. Of other etchings LONDON, Jan. 20. -Mrs. Thompson-Butter is an the number therea-es almost daily. Mr. Seymour liberty, the jury having brought in a verdict of rtist who is reputed to have gained her reputation | Paden's Greenwich, to be had of the Fine Art Society, by an accident, and who has made it good and per- is astrong example of that master, but a trifle pressie of deliberation. Judge Knapp's charge petuated it by her own sincerity and talent. The in character, Mr. Duntherne publishes proofs, on not very long, but the defence took no less accident was her name. I don't know whether the Japanese paper, of Mr. C. P. Slocombe's First than farty exceptions to it. Mrs. Smith burst into stary has ever appeared in print, but it has been | Winter of Cleopatra's Needle on the Banks of the tears when the verdict was announced and then the peated so often among English arrists that. Themes; a subject capable of highly imaginative shock the hands of one of her lawyers. Bennett treatment. Mr. Siocombe has considered the facts smiled family and then began shaking bands also

You reasonber that Miss Thompson-this was years of the case attentively, and dealt with them after Mrs. Smith has gone to her sister's house, and Benhis manner. The Parliament Houses, the Abbey, nott is at the home of a friend. the fog. the frozen river, and, atas! the hideous railway bridge, are made to serve as foils to the obelisk, and the etching gives a fairly good im-When you set up the other obelisk in New- Officer Richard H. Smith, ended at Jersey City yester-York, this illustration will be useful to you as

OBITUARY.

showing you where a monument ought not to be

boy, left school to learn the plumber's trade, his motioned having been left a widow. With \$100 of borrowed tween Mrs. Smitte and Hennet, and it has been addiced that an unbawful affection et tween Mrs. Smitte and Hennet, and it has been addiced that an unbawful affection et ween her began business for himself at East Brendway that he was here the jury have a right to ask wh money he began business for himself at East Broadway and Market-st, and there, after thirty years, is still one of his offices. Integrity and business met secured for him ample success, and he had the contract for the ubing business of the Police and other City Departments. He was elected a member of the Republican State Committee at the last State Convention, and was meant to do a kindness to a friend. His good intentions were diverted, but not thrown away. His panegyric fixed the careor of a deserving srtist, who since then has steadily pursued the path marked out for her by the brilliant success of her first important work.

Mrs. Butler is now engaged on a picture representing the gallant defence of Rocke's Drift. It was undertaken some months since by command of the Queen, and is to be shown to the public at the ensuing exhibition of the Royal Academy in May. It is already so far advanced that

#### PAUL DEVAUX.

BRUSSELS, Jan. 31 .- M. Paul Devaux, the Beigian politician, is dead, at the age of seventy-vine. He was born in 1801, and entered public life in 1830. of the day. They are the central figures of the cansentatives, and at one time gasded the policy of

#### PAMINE-STRICKEN IRELAND.

THE DISTRESS INCREASING-APPEARS FROM THE

LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN. The Lord Mayor of Dublin, in a dispatch to the ington, D. C. says: "Through the generosity of the telegraph company I am enabled to acknowledge the receipt of £500. The distress is daily increaschief figures-appears Hitch; the brave sergeant | ing, and with fearful rapidity. On the 29th instant the committee made fifty-six grants, amounting to £2,900, and applications are every day more numerous and pressing." In a dispatch to Mr. O'Gorman, of New-York, he acknowledges the receipt of £1,600. In a dispatch to Mr. O'Gorman, received to-day, the Lord Mayor says:

Every Catholic and Protestant Archbishop and Bishop in Ireland is an ex-officio member of the committee. We have now nearly 500 local committees through which we distribute relief, and they are increasing at the rate of fifty per day, and in every one there are Catholic bishops or priests members. I have written to-day a letter to every Cetholic Bishop in Ireland, asking him to state publicly whether there is the slightest question as to the fairness and openness of our proceedings, and whether those proceedings are not approved by him. I shall cable the gast of their replies, and shall publish them and thus telegram in the Irish papers. No man in Ireland bas ever ventured to breathe publicly against the good faith of this committee. " "
We are under no kind of influence, save that of a desire to relieve distress."

The Irish Relief Committee of this city acknowl-

Oh. I shall find I edge the receipt of \$10,195 50.

Collections will be taken up to-day in all the Roman Catholic churches of Long Island and Staten Island for the benefit of the suffering poor in Ire-

### RUSINESS INTERESTS.

FEBRUARY PRICES FOR COAL.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 31.—The line and city rices of Schuyiki I coal for February were announced this afternoon by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company as follows: Lump and steamboat, \$2.75; broken, egg and chestnut No. 1, \$2.50; stove and small stove, \$2 60; chestnut No 2, \$2 40; pea No. 1 \$1 50. These prices apply to white ash coal at Schuylkill Haven, and indicate an advance of 10 cents per ton n lump and steamboat; a decline of 15 cents per ton in broken, erg and chesinut, and 30 cents per ton in stove and small stove. The fall is a price made for the pur pose of equalizing the Schuyikill rates for coal and tolls with those of the Louigh region.

pose of equalizing the Schuyikili rates for coal and tolls with those of the Leuigh region.

The harbor prices for February have been decided upon, and circulars will be issued this afternoon as follows: Lamp and steamboat, \$1; erg, broken and chestnut No. 1, \$3 85; stove and small stove, \$3 95; pea No. 1, \$2 85. These flures are an advance of 5 cents per ton on imp and steamboat and 15 cents on chestnut, and a decline of 10 cents on egg and 25 cents on stove. These are the prices of coal free on board vessels at Port Richmond. President Gowen has decided to continue work at the mines until the supply of furnice coal is equal to the present demands, and he will then consider the question of sispension. This will probably be agreed upon a week hence.

The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company announces that on and after Monday next a drawback of 45 cents per ton will be paid on antiractic coal shipped from Port Richmond consigned to points within the Capes of the Delaware. The announcement was also made that on and after Monday next the maximum net rate of freight and toils on lump coal used in making iron on the bines of the Reading railroads will not be over \$1.60 per tou from Schuyikil Haven, \$1.75 from Tamaqua, and \$1.80 from Puc Grove.

### A GENERAL STRIKE EXPECTED.

LONACONING, Md., Jan. 31.-A general strike s anticipated in this coal region on Monday morning among all the manufacturing and coal operatives. The Knights of Labor have posted notices refusing to work more than ten hours per day after February 2. The employers have notified them that they will cease work sooner than comply with such a demand. A collision is feared.

### THE READING STRIKE.

READING, Penn., Jan. 31 .- The striking sulders of the Reading Hardware Company and those of Rich Brothers are still out. There is no indication as to how long the strike may last. Aid has been given by the Reading Moulders' Association. IN BLAST AGAIN AFTER FIVE YEARS.

PHENIXVILLE, Penn., Jan. 31.-Last eveng the Passalxville Iron Company's No. 2 furnace was put into blast after being idle five years. The affair wa

THE AMERICAN PRINT WORKS. FALL RIVER, Mass., Jan. 31 .- The creditors of the American Print Works having voted to capitalize their claims, effected an organization to-day and elected officers. Thomas J. Borden was chosen treasurer.

### DISPUTING OVER A TOWN OFFICE.

A month or two ago the Supervisors of Richmond County rejected a btil which Daniel Dempsey had presented for services as Superintendent of the Poer for the town of Castleton, on the ground Dempsey was not a superintendent at the that Dempsey was not a superintendent at the time of the altered performance of services. Since then they have been upheld by the Supreme Court, which decided that Dempsey was never locally entitled to the office. Nevertheless, Dempsey brought suit against the Board, and on Fraday served upon them a writ parporting to have been issued by Judge Gilbert, commanding them to show cause on Monday in Brooklyn why they should not immediately and it he disputed bills. The Supervisors were of the opinion that the writhad been obtained upon a false representation of the case.

Their counsel therefore waited upon Judge Gilbert, who immediately granted a stay of proceedings, and ordered Dempsy to show cause to-morrow at the Court House in Brooklyn, why the writ should not be vacated and he compelled to pay costs.

for the moment, but anthenticated by the auto- BENNETT AND MRS. SMITH FREE

graphs of Bonnat and Hugo, and on sale by Mr. A VERDICT OF ACQUITTAL BROUGHT IN. Lucas; the other by Enjan, published by the Li-THE JURY COME TO A DECISION IN THREE HOURS -JUDGE ENAPP'S CHARGE-SCENES IN COURT-HOW THE RESULT WAS RECEIVED BY THE PER-

SONS MOST DEEPLY INTERESTED. Covert D. Bennett and Mrs. Smith are now at acquittal yesterday afternoon after three hours

THE CHARGE AND THE VERDICT. The third trial of Mrs. Jennie R. Smith and pression of one of the most striking scenes in Lon- Covers D. Bennets, charged with the murder of Police

day afternoon in a verdier of not guilty.

The charge to the jury was delivered by Jedge Manning M. Kenap. He recited the main points of the evidets e produced on the part of the prosecution, and then

ROBERT C. BROWN.

Robert C. Brown, candidate for Sheriff on the Republican teket at the recent election, died at his residence. No. 1,387 Sixth-ave., last evening of pneumonia after a few days' illness. Mr. Brown was born in this city about fl ty-four years ago, and, when a mere boy, left school to learn the plumper's trade, his mother boy, left school to learn the plumper's trade, at her areas and additional light and light and light and light and through after the residence must establish the proof in the immust the product these who are bound to next legs of their establish the proof in the immust the product these who are bound to next legs of their establish the proof in the immust the pr

and they refuse to go non the stand, then the lary have a right to interpret their action as they see it. The jury must forget everytains but their day, and where say uncertainty in the evidence exists, hey should be careful to give the benefit of every denot to the prisoners. If the evidence satisfies your minds and places your consciences at test, too it is your duty to convict. The simple, naked daty of this jury is to pass upon the guilt or himsence of the accused. You have only to deal with facts, and when testimony falls to convice you it is your duty to acquit; and if you consider the evidence as being safficiently attong to substantiate the case of the State and imply the wuit of the defendants, then it is equally your anty to convict. Gentlemen, I give the case to you, and in as doing I pray that you may have Divine guidance in your deliberations.

THE JURY AGREE IN THREE HOURS. The jury retired at twenty minutes before 12 o'clock chairman of the Irish Relief Committee at Wash- in charge of Sheriff John J. Toffey and a number of special constables. The counsel for the defence took nearly forty exceptions to the charge after the jury had retired, and they were noted by the court reporter. The lawyers interested on both sides of the case gathered in a group and talked over the different features of the case, while the spectators left the courtroom and gathered in little knots on the porch and side-

waik in front of the court-house.

At half-past 2 o'clock the jurors sent word by a constable that they had agreed upon a verdiet and a messenger was sent for Judge Knapp, who was at the office of ex-Attorney-General Glichrist. The court-house bell was rung and a scramble for scats followed. The court-room was almost metantly filled by an excited crowd. Mrs. Smith and Bennett were brought into the court-room and given their usual seats at the table at the side of lawyers. Neither one showed any nervousness. It was after haif-past 3 o'clock when Judge Knapp reached the court-house. The jury walked in, and the clerk asked:

"Gentlemen of the jury, have you agreed upon your verdict !"

" We have," answered the foreman. "How flad you, are the prisoners guilty or not guilty ?"
"Not guilty," was the loud answer.

Mrs. Smith fell back in her chair, and placing her hands over her face, she burst into sobs, and then. The Irish Relief Committee of this city acknowl- jumping to her feet, she seized the bands of Counsellor Collins and shook them warmly. Bennett faintly, and also began snaking hands with those who

AFTER THE ACQUITTAL. Mr. Flemming then moved for the discharge of the

defendants, and in the assence of any objection an order for their liberation was entered. Mrs. Smith and Benuett, accompanied by Mr. Fiemming, Professor Hulse, a former school-master of Bet nett's, and other friends, proceeded to the fall to obtain their discharge. Afterward all entered the parior of the jall, and for nearly an hour the room was growded with the friends of the released prisoners, who were discussing the trial and extending congratulations. In the meantime a large crowd of persons gathered about the doors of the jail, awaiting the appearance of Mrs the doors of the lail, awaiting the appearance of Mrs.
Smith and Bennett, but by the advice of their friends,
they departed by a rear entrance to the lait.
Between 5 and 6 p. m. Mrs. Smith went with her
brother-laiw, George Waison, to the house of her sizter, Mrs. Watson, at Pacific-ave, and Harrison-st. As the
carriage arove up to the house at the persons in the
meighborhood flocked to the doors to catefu a glimpse of
her. Mrs. Smith bowed to many of those sha knew, and
then sought the sectusion of the house. Many
friends called to see her, but she pestively refused, to
receive them. After a hearty supper size retired to her friends called to see her, but she positively refused receive them. After a hearty supper she retired to be room and was in bed at 8:30 p. m. When asked how a telt after the verdict, she replied: "I am cartain very glad to be free again. I don't supper I can realize it to roome time. When I am in bed to link I will be booking for the prison bars which have been a familiar to me for eighteen months. It is somethin strange to me to be out of jail, and I can't become accurated to it right away."

BENNETT'S GREAT RELIEF. Bennett went to the house of a friend, where he expects to stay several days. He was visited by a TRIB-UNE reporter last evening. He at first refused to say anything, but flusly remarked:

"I don't know what to say in regard to my feelings of "I don't know what to say in regard to my feelings or future movements. Words cannot express the great relief that I feel, now that all is over. I feel like harghing one moment and crying the next. I could stand out of doors all night just to look at the stars, it seems so good to be free again after my eighteen montos' imprisonment. I feel very grateful for all the kindness that my friends have shown me, especially for the perfect ovation from my friends at the jail after the trial was over. Many ladies, lawyers, the Sheriff and others surrounded me, and gave me the most hearly congratulations. I can scarcely collect my thoughts as yet. My first thought is to take a good rest for it seems as tough I shouldn't know what to do for a month at least. As for plans, I have had no opportunity for making up my mind. What I desire most now is to remain in quiet with my friends for a time."

The verdict was the al-absorbing topic of conversation upon the streets of Jersey Civ lust evening. Animated discussions were heard in the street-cars, both for and against Mrs. Smith and Bennett, and on the street corners opinions were freely delivered by members of small groups.

e street corners opinions embers of s.nall groups.

### POOR-HOUSE MANAGEMENT.

CONDITION OF THE RICHMOND COUNTY POOR HOUSE AND JAIL-REPORT OF THE LOCAL VISIT-

ING COMMITTER. The Staten Island Local Visiting Committee, a branch of the State Charities Aid Association, has submitted its annual reports, severely censuring the

present condition and management of the county poorhouse and jall. Toe report states that the efforts of the committee to assist the worthy poor of the Island have been in every instance opposed by the Superintendents of the Poor, except Major Barrett, the epublican member of the Board, and that the pretended relief by the Superintendents is made a source of profit to themselves. A full day's pay, it says, is regularly charged in individual cases requiring only an hour's attention, and in this way one member of the board man aged to secure in one year the sum of \$1,200, thus making it to his interest to make as many paupers as possible. The committee claim that by the

worse than cold. If one were deliverately to plan a post-house, where disease might be originated and propagated, he could hardly do better than to take this as a model." As a means of enforcing reform the committee asks the State Board of Chartles to nave the law amended so as to provide for each superintendent a fixed salary not to exceed \$300 a year.

The committee state in regard to the juli at Richmond, that persons under sentence are allowed to mincle indistriminately; that the separation of the sexes is madequate; that witnesses and persons committed on civil processes are compelled to occupy the same rooms with the worst criminals; and that there is no employment for prisoner. They also severely criticise the section of the authorities in the case of Reimhardt, the coddemond manderer. "Less hardened crimmais," they say, " were allowed to converse with him, and he was frested as a distinguished person; conveying the impression to the other innostes that the greater the crime the higher the position of the person in the jail." George William Curtis read the report at the samual meeting last Wednesday, and corroborated its statements, having made a personal tour of inspection to verify them.

#### LARGE LOSSES BY COTTON THEFTS.

RESULTS OF DETECTIVE WORK-WHAT HAS FOL-LOWED THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE COTTON FXCHANGE.

The handling which is necessary in the process of translarring and delivering cotion, at the sales at the Cotion Exchange in this city, results every year in a oss of nearly a quarter of a million dol loss comes from a system of petty thetis, the work of men engaged in a plan of organized theft. These men are certain cotton samplers and their assistants—laborers and menders and their plan is, in brief, this: After taking from the pale six enuces of cotton-all that the law permits them to take for a sample to be delivered to the broker making the sale-the sampler then takes out a pound, or a pound and a half, which he appropriates to his own use. This quantity of cotton is, in itself, small, but when it is remembered that a sampler e seen that, supposing him to steal a pound and a half from each, he would accumulate 300 pounds from one day's work.

resulted from some discoveries made by Mooney & Boland's detective agency, of No. 162 Broadway. Under the direction of the New-York Cotion Exchange these defectives were employed, and their work has respited in the complete exposure of the methods by which the thefts were made, the the guilty persons, their haunts and places of business, and the relative quantities of cotton that they have been in the babit of stealing. About the first discovery made was the fact that the cotton-stealing was carried on with very little effort at concealment. Originating during the war,-when the cotton was so high that a handful was worth almost one tollar; the samplers who began this kind of peculation, had become so accustomed to take this toll from every base without ever having been in terfered with, that they came to look upon a paund or so from every bale as a legislative perquisite. So beidly was the stealing done, that before the detectives came into the case, it was a common thang for samplers to be seen sedime cotton openly; but whenever arrests were made it was found impossible to heneify the ownership of the cotton. Whenever cotton is to be sampled the services of a sampler, a laborer and a mender are required. Opening the bale the sampler draws out enough to weigh six ounces. This he drops into a bag by his side. Then, drawing another and larger landful of the cotton, be drops that into another bag. This is the stolen cotton, and this hag is called a bales of cotton on the street, out of sight from the This is the stoice cotton, not this bag is called a "least." This "joker" is usually placed alongstot the baies of cotton on the street, out of sight from the diors of the warehouse, and a "runner" for the treely-er of stoich goods who buys the cotton sneaks up and watches his chance to walk off with it. There is no doubt that there are certain employées in some of the cotton warehouses who, if not in absolute collision with the samples, at least wink at their pseulations. Another method of steading is called "triuming" the samples. This is done ware the receiver's "runner" cannot get access to the warehouses where the cotton is being sampled. In some cases, for instance where the sampling is done conside the city, the bags of cotton marked with the weight which they should contain, but really considing much more taken to the receiver's and there "triumed." This means that a part of the cotton is taken out and the remainder is permitted to go to the legitumate owner of the cotton.

The laborer who helps to handle the bales, and the mender—who sews up the rent in the sacking covering the bale, where the sampler cotton. Their portion is not so much as the sampler cotton. Their portion is not so much as the sampler, however. Cotton samplers can honestly carn from \$15\$ to \$20 per week; but it has been found that some of the their wish samplers boast of making \$80 a week by their stealings.

thereis samplers boast of making \$50 a week by their stealings.

The men who make a regular business of purchasing stolen cotton are about a dozen in number. They are all well-o-do, as the phrase goes, and some of them have accumulated wealth. An idea of the extent of their dealings can be had from the fact that in some cases fifty bales of cotton a week are said to have been taken into one shop, purchased in lots of contract to 300 ar 400 nounds. So water maken in has

marked as the wards or other political divisions of the city, and no "sunner" ventures to encroach on the territory of another man.

The most extensive receivers in the city purport to be leavithmate cotton dealers, but have been included for dealing in stolen cotton and are now out on bail. They have a number of places in this city and in Brooklyn. Tocir territory is the richest and most valuable preserve in the city, and their game-keepers, or "runners," are all enterprising men. They huy from the district licituding whitehall, State, Pearl and Stone-sts., from the Battery to Wall-st.

There have been indictments found, in New-York and Brooklyn, against about twenty-five men, including

Brooklyn, against about twenty-live mer, including samplers, laborers and receivers, all of whom have been arrested and held on bail. Two only have yet been tried—Lawrence Bowe, receiver, and Patrick Farrell, a sampler—both of were convicted.

The Committee of the Cotton Exchange having charge of this matter, and its members generally, express their obligations to Messrs. Mooney & Boland, through whose exertions these frauds have been exposed.

# RACING WITH BICYCLES.

A bicycle tournament was held last evening at the American Institute. After a procession o seventeen hieyele riders and an exhibition of fancy riding, a two-mile handicap race, won Waster Clark in 6:41%, took place was followed by a boys' handicap race, Brockway winning in 3:214; a contest between riders from Philadelphia and New-York, best two out of three heats, the first won by Waiter Clark, of New-York, in 3:30, and the second a walk over; and a com-petition in fancy riding between E. B. Mears, C. Cope and D. H. Mears, of Philadelphia. and C. Brockaway, of New-York, in which the first prize was awarded to C. Cope. The most exciting event of the evening was a five miles handicap race wih six contestants. Before the last mile was reached all but twe, P. H. Timpson and Walter Clark, had dropped out. The race was won by P. H. bached all bit two, r. H. Hapson and Walter Clark, bad dropped out. The race was won by P. H. Hapson in 17:523s. In the boys' one mile race, best two out of three heats, Francis Lefiell won the first heat in 3 42 and took the second by a walk-over. A one-lap slow race, with six entries and only one survivor, C. Collier, at the home-stretch, and an exhibition of faucy thing by Professor Rollins and several of his pupils closed the events of the evening.

THE AUTHOR OF " TIRED OUT" AND POE.

To the Editor of the Tribune. SIR: I see in my SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE hat you ask the name of the author of " Fired Out." I read it first is the exchanges of The Broadway Journal about thirty-five years ago while I was mail and office boy for that paper. It was said to be the last composition of Elliott, the author of " Corn Law Raymes." The extreme beauty of the lines led me to commit them to memory, and they have been a favorite quotation with

I see that Edgar A. Poe is being roughly handled, and called a drunkard by various carping critics. Poe was the idol of my boyhood, and now at fifty years of age my love and reverence for the memory of the man are outraged by those who seek to destroy a fame they can never hope to equal. I never saw Poe drunk but once. He had given a lecture on "The Poets and Poetry of America," which was well attended and much applauded, and was induced to repeat it. Poe gave me a ticket. The night for the lecture proved one of the worst of the Winter. Sleet, rain and wind combined to drive neople from the streets and make them prisoners at home. About a dozen persons appeared to near the lecture. Poe came forward and said the lecture would have to be postponed, and that the money would be paid back at the door. The next day Poe came to the office helpless from drink and supported by a friend. His temperament was such that he could not bear up under such a disappointment, but he was not a drunkard. If he had been his face would have "hung out the sign." On the contrary his complexion was as fair and his features were as delicate as a woman's.

Little Sloux, Iowa, Jan. 23, 1880. I see that Edgar A. Poe is being roughly handled, Little Sloux, Iowa, Jan. 23, 1880.

Not so Bad as He Seemed,—Physician—Yes, you are evidently suffering. What are you't Patient—A worm-eater, sir. Physician—What! Way, wherever did you acquire that disgusting practice! Patient—In Wardour-street, sir. (And he proceded to explain that he is employed to give the worm-eaten effect in sham-antique furniture).—[Funny Folks.

The other Sunday a bright little girl of three years attended service at an Episcopal church, where the rector was one of her particular friends. She ob-jected to her mother making the responses, asying; "bon't speak, mamua; don't say anything. Uncle John 'an't talking to you."—[Boston Transcript.

I heard a good story the other day of a yeocounty is increased instead of relieved. The cost to the county last year was over \$40,000, exclusive of the products of the poor-house farm, and yet, says the report "the fare of the inmates is wretchedly poor."

Thereport mentions two euclosures terms d'cages," intended for the confinement of lusane persons. "These cages," it continues, "are absolutely unfit for occupancy. That intended for the women is as coldars a barn, but the one designed for men is